

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4267

UNCLAS FINAL SECTION 2 OF 2 RABAT 040

8. CONGRESSMEN, WIVES AND STAFF MEMBERS ATTENDED A SERIES OF SMALL LARGELY "IN HOUSE" LUNCHEONS GIVEN BY VARIOUS MEMBERS OF THE COUNTRY TEAM SHARING PARTICULAR PROFESSIONAL INTEREST WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES. (FOR EXAMPLE, CONGRESSMAN ANDRES WENT TO THE HOME OF AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE JERRY KUHLE, FOR A LUNCHEON ATTENDED INTER ALIA BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GREAT PLAINS WHEAT OFFICE IN CASABLANCA AND AN AID CONTRACTOR IN AGRICULTURE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA.)

9. THE AFTERNOON WAS DEVOTED TO AN IN DEPTH BRIEFING BY THE AMBASSADOR AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNTRY TEAM, USING A QUESTION-AND-ANSWER FORMAT. THE CODEL SHOWED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN THE SAHARA SITUATION, AND THE DISPARITIES IN MILITARY EQUIPMENT BETWEEN MOROCCO AND ALGERIA. MESSRS. SMITH, ANDREWS AND O'BRIEN EXPLORED THE POSSIBILITIES FOR GREATER EMBASSY ASSISTANCE TO AMERICAN SMALL BUSINESS SALES IN MOROCCO. ALSO DISCUSSED WERE THE OUTLOOK FOR INCREASING THE NUMBERS OF MOROCCAN STUDENTS IN THE U.S. AND THE PROBLEMS FACED BY U.S. PERSONNEL IN MOROCCO IN SUCH FIELDS AS HOUSING,

RECREATION AND THE POSITION OF WOMEN IN THE LOCAL SOCIETY.

10. THE SUBSTANTIVE ASPECTS OF THE VISIT CLOSED WITH AN IMPRESSIVELY MOUNTED MOROCCAN-STYLE DINNER OFFERED IN HONOR OF THE CODEL BY PARLIAMENTARY PRESIDENT OULD SIDI BABA AND ATTENDED BY SIX MINISTERS OF THE GOVERNMENT, THE PARLIAMENTARY VICE PRESIDENTS, NUMEROUS MEMBERS

OF PARLIAMENT (INCLUDING THREE FROM THE SAHARAN AREAS), REPRESENTATIVES

OF THE KING'S CABINET, AMBASSADOR AND MRS. ANDERSON AND OTHER MOROCCAN DIGNITARIES. A NUMBER OF PERSONS OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO THE

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CODEL WERE INCLUDED, SUCH AS THE LOCAL HEAD OF THE CATHOLIC RELIEF OFFICE, WHICH DISTRIBUTES MUCH OF THE P.L. 480 TITLE II COMMODITIES.

AN EXCHANGE OF TOASTS CONCLUDED THE DINNER (RABAT 0327).

11. THE CODEL WAS SEEN OFF EARLY JANUARY 17 BY TWO VICE PRESIDENTS

OF THE PARLIAMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES. CONGRESSMAN SMITH'S DEPARTURE STATEMENT WAS SENT IN RABAT 0327.

12. CABLES FOR USIA PUBLIC-AFFAIRS USE, USIAC CABLES RABAT 0299 AND 0324, WERE REPEATED TO DEPARTMENT.

13. ASSESSMENT OF VISIT: FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THOSE OF US SERVING IN MOROCCO THE VISIT MARKED AN ENTIRELY POSITIVE LANDMARK IN OUR INCREASINGLY CLOSE AND PRODUCTIVE RELATIONS WITH THIS KEY FRIEND IN THE ARAB AND AFRICAN WORLDS. IT UNDERLINED OUR SUPPORT FOR MOROCCO'S RETURN TO CONSTITUTIONAL PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENT AND COMPLEMENTED WELL THE EFFORTS OF THE USG TO PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS AND TO CONTRIBUTE TO MEETING BASIC HUMAN NEEDS. AT THE SAME TIME IT EXPOSED THE MOROCCAN PARLIAMENTARIANS TO COLLEAGUES FROM ANOTHER LAND WITH DIFFERING TRADITIONS TO THE MUTUAL BENEFIT OF BOTH SIDES. THE IMPORTANCE ATTACHED TO THIS VISIT BY THE MOROCCAN GOVERNMENT CLEARLY DEMONSTRATES THE VALUE IT PLACES ON THE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AND ON THE CONTINUED GROWTH OF ITS PARLIAMENTARY INSTITUTIONS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO BUILDING ON THE VALUABLE GROUNDWORK LAID BY THIS PRECURSOR OF WHAT WE HOPE WILL BE MORE FREQUENT DIRECT COMMUNICATION BETWEEN MOROCCAN AND AMERICAN LEGISLATORS. ANDERSON

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